

# STATE CHAMPION (Entity or individual) AGREEMENT LETTER

The undersigned organization joins the national movement Million Women Mentors (MWM) as a State champion for the State of \_\_\_\_\_\_. Million Women Mentors will engage women and men in STEM to serve as mentors for at least one million girls and women across the school to work age continuum (middle school through careers) to assure they develop the interest and confidence they need to persist and succeed in STEM courses, degrees, and careers. We will track progress around key metrics driven by our stakeholder needs, technology and research.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In the past 10 years, growth in STEM jobs has been three times greater than non-STEM Jobs. 80% of the fastest growing occupations in the United States depend upon mastery of mathematics and scientific knowledge and skills. While women comprise 48% of the US workforce, just 24% are in STEM fields, a statistic that has held constant for nearly the last decade. And, while 70% of all college students are women and students of color, they represent only 45% of STEM degrees earned each year. Too many of these women leave STEM degree paths despite their good academic standing, often citing uncomfortable classroom experiences and climate. Even when women persist to earn a STEM degree, women are less likely than their male counterparts to work in a STEM field.

High quality mentoring programs that connect girls and women with STEM professionals can significantly increase the number of women who pursue and succeed in careers in STEM fields. Exposing girls to successful female role models can help counter negative stereotypes because girls see that people like them can be successful and the stereotype threat can be managed and overcome. Recent surveys report that 18 million US children currently "want and need a mentor, but only 3 million have one." This must change.

#### **FOUNDING PARTNERS & SPONSORS**

MWM was co-founded by STEMconnector ® and the National Girls Collaborative Project with NPower and MentorNet and is supported by 58 partners reaching 30 million girls and women. Platinum sponsors include Cisco, PepsiCo, Sodexo and Tata Consultancy Services.



### **EXPECTATIONS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR STATE CHAMPTIONS**

- Agree to position your efforts as 'Champion or State of XYZ Champion of Million Women Mentors' and not as an employee or an official representative of the Million Women Mentors or STEMconnector® organization.
- Understand that Million Women Mentors is an inclusive model with many national partners who also will be champions in your State
- o Submit logo and up to two paragraph profile for the website with contact information.
- Submit a one-page document on your plans to support the statewide goals and who will be working with you (ie. Goal to engage X corporate pledges to mentor X,000 girls in STEM in the State of X...) or Commitment to secure mentors mentoring a minimum of 20 hours in 2015.
- Share your learning and research as appropriate through various channels and opportunities MWM might bring to the table
- Thought leader speaking, blogging, media opportunities (Optional)
- Connect and leverage with technology for mentor/ mentee matching as appropriate
- Attend or join by phone 1 − 2 MWM official stakeholder meetings annually and launching event if available
- Quarterly phone check ins where we can share together metrics and outcomes

#### **BENEFITS FOR STATE CHAMPIONS:**

You will be positioned as a crucial voice on women and girls in STEM, you will be listed as a State Champion on the site along with 3 - 4 key goals for your engagement. You will be invited to represent your State to official MWM events and through State or quarterly calls to weigh in on strategy and best practices (Cisco WebEx sharing on mentoring girls/women in STEM) speaking and blogging opportunities pushed by all our social media if available), early access to results and more. As a State leader, you will gain a new audience of corporate and industry volunteers and a national platform to support and extend the work you do. The technology platform built with Tata Consultancy Services will be a multi-phase process. There is no cost to your organization to participate if you are a youth serving non-profit entity, college, or media partner.



## **INITIATIVE CONTACTS:**

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#### **COUNT US IN!**

We have reviewed this document and consider us on board to work together to reach millions of girls and women in support of building a new generation of women in STEM careers.

Signed:	Date:
Organization:	
Phone Number	
F-mail	

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  Million Women Mentors  $\ensuremath{^{\$}}$  , an Initiative of STEM connector  $\ensuremath{^{\$}}$